Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 046147 ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 IO-06 ISO-00 H-03 HA-02 PA-01 AID-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 /041 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RWBAKER:SM X20857 APPROVED BY AF/E:JWHITING IO:JTEFFT

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O R 222251Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
SECDEF
CINCEUR

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GENEVA FOR USDEL TO HRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, UG, OREP, SHUM, OREP

SUBJECT: UGANDAN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

REF: STATE 31605; B) STATE 31606; C) STATE 37552

- 1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FRG FONMIN FOR THEIR INFORMATION AND FOR PASSING TO FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA:
- 2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER TO UGANDAN CHARGE, FROM HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 046147

CHAIRMEN OF SUBCOMMITTEES NOW HOLDING HEARINGS ON UGANDA, WHICH WAS PASSED TO UGANDAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON FEB. 22.

3. BEGIN TEXT:

WE ARE WRITING IN RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE FROM YOUR GOVERN-MENT INVITING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO VISIT UGANDA WHICH

WAS TRANSMITTED TO US BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CONSIDERATION IN OFFERING THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR A FIRST-HAND INVESTIGATION BY OUR MEMBERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN UGANDA. HOWEVER, AS THIS QUESTION IS ESSENTIALLY ONE OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN, NOT LIMITED TO THE UNITED STATES OR ITS CONGRESS, WE BELIEVE THAT ANY SUCH INVESTIGATION SHOULD IN THE FIRST INSTANCE BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE INTERNA-TIONAL COMMUNITY. AS THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, PRESENTLY IN SESSION IN GENEVA, IS NOT ONLY THE AUTHORITATIVE INTERNATIONAL BODY IN THIS FIELD BUT IS ALSO ALREADY OFFICIALLY SEIZED OF THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA, IT WOULD APPEAR TO US THAT THIS IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATION TO CONDUCT A FULL AND OBJECTIVE EXAMINATION OF THE SITUATION. WE WOULD THERE-FORE STRONGLY URGE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT CONSIDER EXTENDING ITS INVITATION TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

-- IN THIS CONTEXT, I WOULD NOTE THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS IS REPRESENTED ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION THROUGH THE PRESENCE OF A NUMBER OF OUR MEMBERS ON THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE COMMISSION. OF COURSE, SHOULD THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION SUGGEST ANY AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THE CONGRESS WHERE FURTHER EXPLORATION APPEARED NECESSARY, THERE WOULD ALSO BE THE POSSIBILITY OF A FOLLOW-UP VISIT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 046147

BY A CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AT SOME LATER DATE.

- -- I HOPE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE FULL CONSIDERATION TO THESE THOUGHTS, AND THAT AN INVITATION TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WILL BE FORTHCOMING. THE RESULTS OF AN EXAMINATION BY THE COMMISSION COULD BE OF SUBSTANTIAL VALUE TO THE CONGRESS IN WEIGHING THE IMPORTANT PROPOSALS ON U.S.-UGANDA RELATIONS, NOW PENDING BEFORE US. WE WOULD HOPE THAT SUCH AN EXAMINATION COULD BE CONDUCTED AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, SO AS TO BE OF MAXIMUM BENEFIT IN THIS PROCESS. SINCERELY, CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS; CHARLES C. DIGGS, JR., CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTE ON AFRICA; DONALD M. FRASER, CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS; JONATHAN B. BINGHAM, CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY AND TRADE.
- 4. FOR GENEVA: USDEL IS AUTHORIZED TO UTILIZE CONGRESSIONAL LETTER AS APPROPRIATE IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS ON PROPOSALS TO SEND HRC EMISSARY TO UGANDA FOR INVESTIGATION UNDER 1503 PROCEDURES. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, TEXT, INVITITIONS, INVESTIGATIONS, ALLEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 22 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE046147
Document Source: CDR

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: RWBAKER:SM X20857

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration:

Film Number: D780082-1146

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780226/aaaaavot.tel

Line Count: 115 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: b67d9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ORIGIN AF

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 STATE 31605, 78 STATE 31606, 78 STATE 37552

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3515187 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: UGANDAN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TAGS: OREP, SHUM, US, UG
To: BONN GENEVA

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b67d9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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